

Serial No.: 10/707,509
Attorney Docket No.: F-730-O1

Patent

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

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1. - 13. (canceled).

14. (currently amended) A method for detecting fraud by a user of a shipping label having an identifier comprising:

receiving a print success indicator for the shipping label having a first identifier,
wherein the print success indicator comprises a response or a default indication if no response is received within an allocated response time period;

receiving a list of identifiers representing items processed by a shipping stream;
if the print success indicator is negative, reporting a potential fraud if the first identifier is present in the list of identifiers; and
if the print success indicator is positive, reporting a potential fraud if the first identifier is present at least twice in the list of identifiers.

15. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein:
the list of identifiers is received periodically.

16. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein:
the list of identifiers comprise identifiers recognized for a period of time.

17. (original) The method of claim 15 wherein:
the list of identifiers is received daily.

18. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein:
the list of identifiers comprises identifiers recognized during the prior six months.

19. (original) The method of claim 15 further comprising:

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reporting a potential fraud if an identifier having a successful print indicator is not recognized within an expected package period.

20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein:
the expected package period is one period selected from the group of one day, one week, one month and six months.

21. (currently amended) A method for detecting fraud by a user of a transportation item having an identifier comprising:
receiving a print success indicator associated with the transportation item
wherein the print success indicator comprises a response or a default indication if no response is received within an allocated response time period;
receiving a list of identifiers used in a shipping stream;
if the print success indicator is negative, reporting a potential fraud if the indicator is present in the list of identifiers; and
if the print success indicator is positive, reporting a potential fraud if the indicator is present at least twice in the list of identifiers.

22. (original) The method of claim 21 wherein:
the list of identifiers is received periodically.

23. (original) The method of claim 22 wherein:
the list of identifiers comprise identifiers recognized for a period of time.

24. (original) The method of claim 22 wherein:
the identifiers comprise identifiers from a plurality of sets of identifiers.

25. (original) The method of claim 23 wherein:
the list of identifiers comprises identifiers recognized during the prior six months.

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26. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
reporting a potential fraud if an identifier having a successful print indicator is
not recognized within ~~[[a]]~~ an expected package period.

27. (original) The method of claim 26 wherein:
the expected package period is one period selected from the group of one day,
one week, one month and six months.

28. (original) The method of claim 21 wherein:
the transportation item is an item selected from the group: envelopes, post
cards, postage labels, labels and packages.

29. (original) The method of claim 21 wherein:
the identifiers are selected from at least one set of identifiers wherein the set of
identifiers includes one or more from the group: planet codes, delivery confirmation
numbers, IBI indicia, identifiers including the combination of a piece count and permit
number, and identifiers including the combination of a meter number and ascending
register.

30. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein:
the identifiers are selected from at least one set of identifiers comprising planet
codes.

31. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein:
the identifiers are selected from at least one set of identifiers comprising
identifiers including the combination of a meter number and ascending register.

32. (new) The method of claim 14 wherein:
the identifiers are selected from at least one set of identifiers comprising
identifiers including the combination of a piece count and permit number.